

Spring 3-20-1996

Senate Meeting, March 20, 1996

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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ACADEMIC SENATE AGENDA
TIME: 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 20, 1996
PLACE: Circus Room, Bone Student Center

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of March 6, 1996

Chairperson's Remarks

Committee Reports

Vice Chairperson's Remarks

Student Government Association President's Remarks

Administrators' Remarks

SPECIAL TOPIC: Summer Session Review Committee Report

Action Items:

1. Proposal to amend the ISU Constitution and Committee Structure
- to give the position of Vice President for Institutional Advancement
membership on the Academic Senate
2. Academic Progress Alert System

Information Items:

None

Communications

Sense of the Senate Resolution -- President Strand

Sense of the Senate Resolution -- Academic Impact Fund Review Committee

Adjournment

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

March 20, 1996

Volume XXVII, No. 12

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Secretary Jan Cook called the roll and declared a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes

Correction to the minutes of March 6, 1996: Senator Bernardoni had an excused absence. Motion XXVII-61 by (second, Weber) to approve the minutes as amended carried on a voice vote.

Chairperson's Remarks

Chairperson Len Schmaltz thanked the senators for their support during the year. He announced that orientation for new and continuing senators will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27, in the Founder's Suite, Bone Student Center.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs - No report

Administrative Affairs - No report

Budget Committee - No report

Faculty Affairs Committee - Senator Deutsch reported that the Committee has received responses to the pilot general education program questionnaire. The Committee has received twenty-six responses. The results of the questionnaire will be reported at the April 17 meeting.

Rules Committee - No report

Student Affairs Committee - No report

Vice Chairperson's Remarks

Vice Chair Chris Harrison thanked the student senators for their participation and support over the past year.

Student Government Association President's Remarks

SGA President Ryan Koehl introduced newly elected SGA President Keenan Sautler.

Administrators' Remarks

President David Strand reported that the Campus Enhancement Project had been approved by the Board of Trustees. It will be taken to the Board of Higher Education for approval.

Vice President and Provost John Urice said the University Librarian search is progressing.

Vice President for Student Affairs Bill Gurowitz said he will give a State of the Division address on Wednesday, April 3, at 9 a.m. in the Old Main Room, Bone Student Center.

Vice President for Business and Finance Chuck Taylor had no remarks.

SPECIAL TOPIC: Summer Session Review Committee Report

Senator Eric Johnson (Chair, Summer Session Review Committee) presented the Report of the University ad hoc Committee to Review Summer Session. The charge to the Committee was "to make recommendations on how Summer Session academic programs can be improved, within existing budgets, to meet the needs of Illinois State University students and faculty."

The Senate was provided with a summary of the report. (A copy of the entire report is attached.)

Summary

The Committee finds that in recent years funding for the summer session has undergone a significant reduction and further, the level of funding available has not been declared in a timely fashion. The Committee recommends that a minimum level for the summer session budget be established that is at least equal to that of recent summer session expenditures and that the budget be declared by mid-November.

The Committee finds that many summer session course times overlap because of variation in the number of weeks that courses are offered, and because many courses are offered at the same time of the day. The Committee recommends that variation in the number of weeks that summer session courses are offered be reduced, and that courses be scheduled at carefully chosen times of the day so as to minimize overlap and make it easier for students to enroll in multiple courses in the summer session.

The Committee believes that we have been losing summer students to community colleges and feels that we could market our summer session better. The Committee recommends that a strong marketing campaign for the summer session be developed in consultation with appropriate individuals with expertise in marketing.

The Committee finds that there is little or no cooperation between colleges and departments in the design and scheduling of the summer session and that there is virtually no long term planning of course offerings. The Committee recommends such cooperation and long term planning so as to provide students with more opportunities to complete their programs in a timely fashion.

The Committee finds that summer session coordination is needed to conduct enrollment analysis, to provide leadership in marketing, to keep abreast of national trends, and to respond to any questions regarding the summer session. Such summer session coordination is currently missing and the Committee recommends that such coordination functions be centralized.

Under current procedures any tuition income, including summer, which is in excess of the total budget appropriated by the State reverts back to the State. The Committee recommends that the University make an effort to change these procedures so as to be able to retain summer tuition income which is in excess of the appropriated budget.

Senator Johnson answered questions from the Senate regarding the report. Questions and comments included the following:

Senator Deutsch said that, this summer, the faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences would receive stipends instead of salaries. He asked if the Committee had covered this issue in the report. Senator Jerich (member of the Summer Session Review Committee) said that the Committee felt this issue was beyond the Committee's charge. Senator Pereira asked if the tuition for summer school is the same as the tuition for the spring and fall semesters. Senator Taylor answered that it is the same. Senator McCaw said that many students attend community colleges in the summer because the cost is less, and added that if a full catalog of courses were made available earlier in the year, students would be able to better plan ahead. Senator Bernardoni suggested that data regarding students' opinions about summer school be collected. Senator Mendiola stated that students can take cheaper courses at community colleges. Senator O'Malley said that she has not enrolled in summer school in the past because of the cost; now she would like to enroll in order to graduate on time, but cannot get the courses she needs because many of those courses are scheduled for the same time. Senator Miller added that more evening classes would be desirable, because most students work during the day in the summer. Senator Nelsen asked what would be done with the report. Senator Urice answered that it will be discussed at the administrators' retreat, and then reviewed with the college deans.

Senator Schmaltz thanked the Committee for their work. Senator Johnson thanked Committee member Senator Shailish Tipnis for his work on the report.

Action Items:

1. Amendment to the ISU Constitution and Committee Structure
- to give the position of Vice President for Institutional Advancement membership on the Academic Senate

Motion XXVII-62: Senator McCaw moved the amendment to the ISU Constitution and Committee Structure be approved by the Senate (second, Harrison). Debate on the motion followed.

Senator D. Strand stated that the department of Institutional Advancement exists to enhance the University. The issue of disproportionality of senate seats had been raised. In order to address this issue, Senator D. Strand suggested that the President's position become a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Senate, or that one faculty seat and one student seat be added. Senator Walker asked if the Rules Committee had addressed the issue of proportionality in discussing the amendment. Senator McCaw (Chair, Rules Committee) said it had not.

A roll call vote on the motion followed. The motion failed: N - 23; Y - 13.

Senator D. Strand said he had not addressed the issue of proportionality until after receiving questions from the senators about it. A similar proposal may be brought up again before the new Senate.

2. Academic Progress Alert System

Motion XXVII-63: Senator Walker moved the Senate approve the Academic Progress Alert System proposal (second, Borg). Debate on the motion followed. Alan Dillingham (Associate Vice President for Instruction and Dean of Undergraduate Studies) answered questions from the Senate regarding the System.

Questions and comments included the following:

Dr. Dillingham said the System will go into effect in the fall of 1997. The original proposal called for progress reports on freshmen, transfer students, and students on probation. The Academic Affairs Committee revised the proposal to state that progress reports be required only for students taking 100-level courses.

The motion carried on a voice vote.

Communications

1. Motion XXVII-64: Senator D. Strand presented the following Sense of the Senate Resolution (second, Weber):

WHEREAS, the level of education of the citizens of Illinois is important to the economic vitality of the State, and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly appropriates funds for higher education each year, and

WHEREAS, the fiscal year recommendations of the General Assembly are submitted to the Governor for his approval, and

WHEREAS, Governor Edgar in his budget message has recommended full funding of the Illinois Board of Higher Education budget request for fiscal year 1997, and

WHEREAS, the opportunity exists for organizations to express their support for the Governor's budget recommendation for higher education:

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Academic Senate of Illinois State University endorses the Governor's budget recommendation for Illinois State University found in Senate Bill 1937 and encourages the General Assembly to appropriate this level of funding for fiscal year 1997.

The motion carried on a voice vote.

2. Motion XXVII-65: Senator Weber (Chair, Academic Impact Fund Review Committee) presented the following Sense of the Senate Resolution (second, Bernardoni):

It is the Sense of the Academic Senate that the Academic Impact Fund be implemented for a three-year trial period. After three years, another joint faculty-administrative committee should review progress and results of the trial period and reports its assessment and recommendations for possible changes to the President, Provost, and Academic Senate.

Senator Nelsen offered the following Friendly Amendment to the Resolution: "...the Academic Impact Fund be implemented for a three-year trial period, with a report to the Academic Senate each year." Debate on the Resolution followed.

Questions and comments included the following:

Senator Walker asked what the difference is between holding and freezing a position, and whether a position would be held, or frozen, for one or two years. Senator Urice answered that positions would be reallocated based on the priority of need; in many cases, advertising will begin immediately. Senator Urice added that the determining factors would be the amount of the payout and the priorities of other needs, and that there are no plans to eliminate tenure-track faculty positions. Senator McCaw asked if any of the funds would be used for payouts to administrators. Senator Urice answered that payouts for administrators come from a different fund. Senator K. Strand asked why a trial period of three years was being proposed. Senator Weber answered that three years would be long enough to see some effects. Senator Walker said it is better for decisions of this type to be made at the department and college level; the proposal is an attempt by the Provost to micro-manage. Senator Urice said that the goal of the Academic Impact Fund is to assist with the burden of payouts.

A roll call vote on the Resolution followed. The Resolution passed: 32 - Y; 2 - N; 1 - Abstain.

3. Motion XXVII-66: Senator Borg presented the following Sense of the Senate Resolution (for Lou Perez, History):

WHEREAS the secretarial/clerical staff of Illinois State University earns demonstrably less for the same work as their peers in Illinois State Government and at the University of Illinois, and

WHEREAS the State of Illinois 87th General Assembly has adopted Senate Resolution 141 as it applied to all State Universities "that salary increases be distributed to faculty and civil service staff in a manner which moves toward the goal of equity within appropriate comparison groups,"

WE THE MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE RESOLVE that the secretarial/clerical staff of Illinois State University should be supported in their efforts to achieve pay equity with their peers in Illinois State Government and at other State Universities.

A brief debate on the Resolution included the following: Senator Walker stated that the Resolution was too broad and endorsed collective bargaining. Senator Borg said he did not think that the Resolution was an endorsement of collective bargaining. Senator Bernardoni urged the students to support the Resolution because of the support the students receive from the clerical and secretarial staff. Senator Weber said that faculty at ISU do not receive pay comparable to the faculty at the University of Illinois. Senator Jagodzinski said the comparison in the resolution was between clerical workers, not faculty.

The Resolution passed on a voice vote.

Motion XXVII-67 by Senator Mendiola (second, Weber) to adjourn carried on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:40.

[illegible]